Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Homemaker News
EXCLUSIVE TO STATE EXTENSION EDITORS
U.S.D.A. PRESS SERVICE, OFFICE OF INFORMATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE

eserve
1.9
MIMEOGRAPHED MATERIAL
OCT 25 1939
O. E. S. LIBRARY

To all States No. 320

WET WALLS AND WINDOWS CAUSE PAINT TO PEEL

"Moisture maketh a housewife mad" may not be an authentic proverb, but it comes near to the truth. Vapor from housekeeping operations and condensation of warm moisture-laden air upon cool surfaces sometimes cause a great deal of troublesome dampness in a house. Moisture may affect the paint on walls and woodwork and cause it to blister and peel, or it may make the wallpaper mildew, ruining the appearance of a room.

Gas, kerosene, and gasoline, used for cooking or emergency heating, give off products of combustion that add to the amount of moisture in the air in rooms. So, says _____ (Name), _____ (Title), of _____ (Institution), all stationary room heaters should be connected to chimneys, and hoods over cooking stoves using oil or gas should, if possible, be connected to an unused chimney flue or special vent. If portable oil heaters are used, ventilation should be provided in the room.

When cooking or laundry work is going on, it is advisable to shut off the kitchen or laundry entirely to keep steam from the rest of the house. At the same time, open windows and transoms help to circulate air and give ventilation to carry off moisture. Many people use exhaust fans if electricity is available.

To check drip from condensation of moisture on windows, or "sweating," opening both the top and bottom sash a crack sets up a greater movement of air across the glass. Letting an electric fan blow against the window helps. In cold climates storm sashes, which are widely used in winter, reduce condensation of moisture on windowpanes.

659-39

Steam from hot water in the bathtub condenses very readily on tile or enamel woodwork. Immediately after taking a warm bath, one should open the window to allow fresh air to dry the walls before the pain is affected. Linen stored in a bathroom closet is likely to mildew from dampness. A closet outside the bathroom is a better place to keep it.

* * * * * *

May 11, 1939

659-39